

NEW SYMBOLS  
ADDED TO THE  
BCI STANDARD  
VOCABULARY  
1988



BLISSYMBOLICS COMMUNICATION INTERNATIONAL  
(formerly Blissymbolics Communication Institute)

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NOTE REGARDING THIS LIST OF NEW SYMBOLS:

Symbols appear in alphabetical order within major categories with some exceptions (to show meaning relationships between certain symbols). Numbers in parentheses show template shapes used to draw a given symbol. These appear only when the shapes required are not obvious.





## NEW BLISSYMBOLS (APPROVED APRIL 1988)

## ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING (ADL)

	PAGE NUMBER
absorbent material	20
ash tray	24
ashes	24
barber, hairdresser	6
barber shop, hairdressing salon	6
blusher (see rouge)	
bra, brassiere	23
brassiere (see bra)	
cavity	18
cigarette	24
coffeepot (see pitcher)	
day care centre	18
dental floss	18
deodorant	22
diaper	20
dhoti, lungi (INDIA)	23
drinking straw	18
ear mould	19
electric wheelchair	19
eye make-up	21
eyebrow pencil	22
(to) feed	18
hairdresser (see barber)	
hairdressing salon (see barber shop)	
helmet	23
hoist (see lift)	
ironing board	18
kettle (see pitcher)	
launderette (see laundromat)	
laundromat, launderette, laundry (UK)	19
laundry (UK) (see laundromat)	
lift, hoist	19
lipstick	21
lungi (INDIA) see dhoti	
make-up	21
microwave oven	17
nail polish	21
necktie (see tie)	
petticoat (see slip)	
pipe	24
pitcher, coffeepot, kettle	19
razor (see shaver)	
rouge, blusher	21
sanitary napkin (see tampon)	
sanitary towel (UK) (see tampon)	
sari (INDIA)	23
sauna	20
scarf	23

shaver, razor	6
shaving cream (see shaving soap)	
shaving soap, shaving cream	6
slip, petticoat, underskirt	23
sponge (see absorbent material)	
steam bath	20
sun lotion (see sun screen)	
sun screen, sun lotion	22
talcum powder	22
tampon, sanitary napkin, sanitary towel (UK)	20
tie, necktie	23
toilet paper	20
tray	19
underskirt (see slip)	
washer (see washing machine)	
washing machine, washer	19

## ANIMALS

bluebird	7
dolphin, porpoise	2
eel	3
goldfish, guppy, pet fish	7
guppy (see pet fish)	
hedgehog	7
lion	5
porpoise (see dolphin)	

## COUNTRIES

Canada	8
Denmark	8
Finland	8
Great Britain (see United Kingdom)	
Iceland	8
Ireland	8
United Kingdom (UK), Great Britain	8

## ENERGY

atom	16
coal	17
fuel (revised symbol)	16
microwave oven	17
nuclear energy	16
nuclear fallout	16
nuclear radiation	16
nucleus	16

## FOODS

blackberry (see raspberry)	
blueberry	15
chocolate flavouring, chocolate powder, cocoa powder	15
chocolate powder (see chocolate flavouring)	
cocoa powder (see chocolate flavouring)	
compound berry (see raspberry)	
currant(s)	15
halvah, halwa (INDIA)	15
halwa (INDIA) (see halvah)	
horseradish	15
meatball	15
raspberry, blackberry, compound berry	15

## HAIR AND RELATED SYMBOLS

barber, hairdresser	6
beard	5
barber shop, hairdressing salon	6
fur	5
hair	5
hair (on head)	5
hairdresser (see barber)	
hairdressing salon (see barber)	
razor (see shaver)	
shampoo	5
(to) shave	5
shaver, razor	6
shaving soap, shaving cream	6
shaving cream (see shaving soap)	



## MISCELLANEOUS

bar, pub	10
beer	10
bubble	25
cassette	10
crescent	9
curl (see spiral)	
diamond	9
drunk	10
everybody	10
gray, grey	11
grey (see gray)	
jewel	11
mailbox, mail slot, postbox (UK)	11
mail slot (see mailbox)	
naughty	11
oval	9
postbox (UK) (see mailbox)	
pub (see bar)	
spiral, curl	9
sunrise	11
sunset	11
(to) throw	12
university	12
welcome	12

## TRANSPORTATION

cart, carriage	13
carriage (see cart)	
crash	13
(airplane) crash	13
(automobile) crash	13
harbour	14
helicopter	14
(airplane) landing	13
rickshaw	13
road	14
(airplane) take-off	13
tractor	14
traffic	14



# REVISED SYMBOLS

v

art	2
(work of) art	2
beard	5
branch	25
bright	4
cold	2
dolphin, porpoise	2
eel	3
fast	4
fuel	16
fur	5
hair	5
hair (on head)	5
lion	5
neck	3
porpoise (see dolphin)	
(to) rub	4
(to) run	4
shampoo	5
(to) shave	5
slide	3
snowflake	25
(to) stroke	4
whale	2

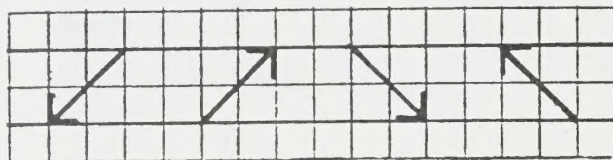
## SYMBOLS WHICH ARE COMPONENTS OF STANDARD BLISSYMBOLS

"bite" (see puncture)	
diagonal arrow	1
female	1
male	1
puncture, sting, "bite", prick	1
prick (see puncture)	
sting (see puncture)	
public room	1

# SYMBOLS WHICH APPEAR AS SYMBOL COMPONENTS OF STANDARD BLISSYMBOLS

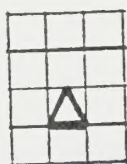
NOTE: These symbols have been approved so that they will be entered into the Blissymbol Data Base and created on the BCI typesetting font. Most would normally appear only as components within compound symbols, so BCI Affiliates may wish to omit them from lists of revised and newly approved symbols which they may publish.

diagonal arrow



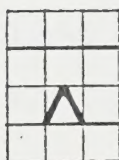
(diagonal arrow in all possible orientations to represent diagonal movement)

female



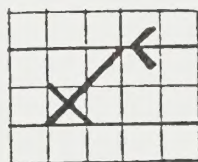
(creation/half-sized:  
used only in compound  
symbols to represent female)

male



(action/half-sized:  
used only in compound symbols  
to represent male)

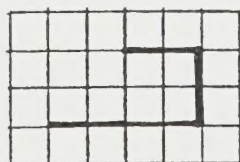
puncture, sting, "bite",  
prick



(knife + pointer: puncture)

NOTE: This symbol is a component in the symbols "mosquito", "scorpion".

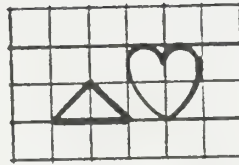
public room



(room + ground: symbol suggests  
room which opens onto the street)

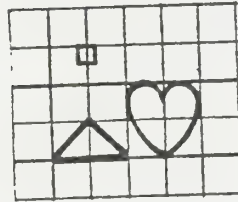
## REVISED SYMBOLS

art



(man-made + feeling: a process of making or producing something that inspires emotion in the beholder)

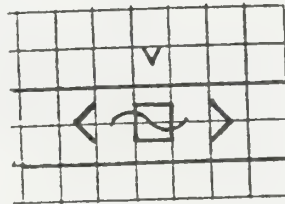
(work of) art, art object



(man-made + feeling + thing indicator: an art object which inspires emotion in the beholder)

NOTE: REVISED WORDING-The concept "art" is now available in abstract and concrete forms.

cold



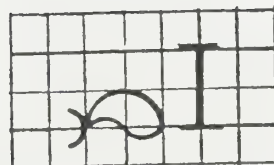
(ice + 2 pointers suggesting the emission of cold + description indicator)

dolphin, porpoise



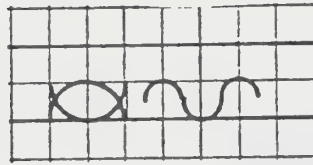
(pictograph: the symbol incorporates the water and mind symbols emphasizing the animal's habitat and intelligence)  
(18, 7, 21a)

whale



(pictograph + big)

eel



(fish + snake: a snake-like fish)

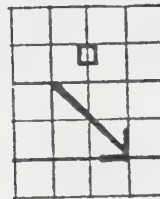
NOTE: Eel was previously a word synonym for water snake.

neck



(head + pointer to neck)  
(13, 9, 1, 5)

slide



(downward diagonal arrow + thing  
indicator)

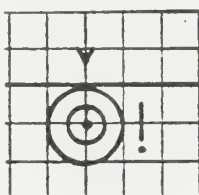
NOTE: This symbol is now consistent with "swing" and merry-go-round". The orientation of the downward diagonal arrow has been changed in order to be consistent with the left to right progression of symbols in the system.



## REVISED SYMBOLS BASED UPON ! (Intensity)

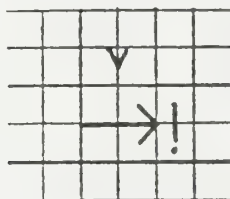
NOTE: all symbols below contain ! which is used to enhance meaning in a qualitative way (i.e. used after another symbol to heighten meaning). These revisions were undertaken after consultation with the International Panel on Standards for Blissymbolics.

bright



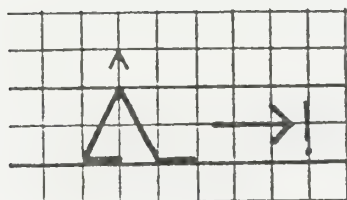
(light + intensity + description indicator)

fast



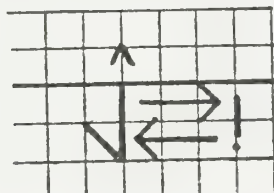
(forward movement + intensity + description indicator)

(to) run



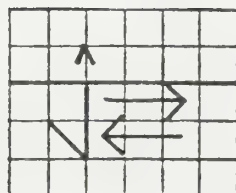
(to go + quick + action indicator)

(to) rub



(to stroke + intensity)  
+ action indicator: the intensity symbol implies that pressure is being applied)

(to) stroke



(hand + back and forth + action indicator)

NOTE: This symbol was formerly (to) rub.

## HAIR &amp; RELATED SYMBOLS

## REVISED SYMBOLS/HAIR

hair



(pictograph of 3 small hairs:  
USED ONLY IN COMBINATION WITH  
OTHER SYMBOL ELEMENTS)  
(3)

beard



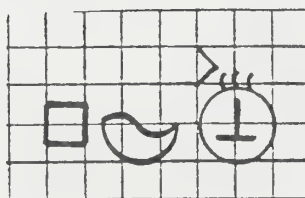
(face with pictograph of 3 small  
hairs on chin + pointer)

hair (on head)



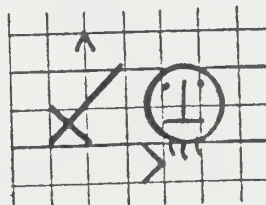
(head with pictograph of 3 small  
hairs + pointer)

shampoo



(soap + hair (on head))

(to) shave



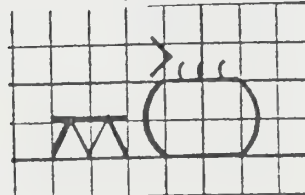
(to cut + beard)

fur



(animal + hair + pointer)

lion



(animal + hair on neck + pointer:  
the male of the species has a mane)

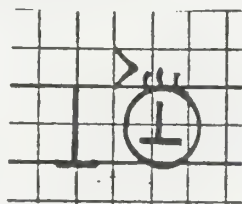
## ADDITIONAL SYMBOLS/HAIR

barber shop, hairdressing salon



(public room + hair)

barber, hairdresser



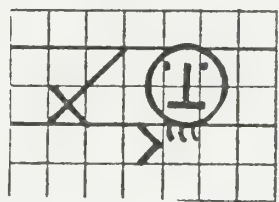
(person + hair)

shaving soap, shaving cream



(soap + beard)

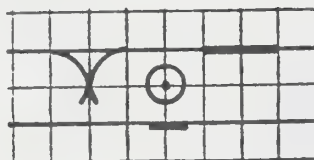
shaver, razor



(knife + beard)

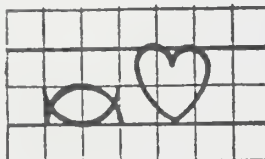
## ADDITIONAL ANIMAL SYMBOLS

bluebird



(bird + blue)

goldfish, guppy, pet fish

(fish + feeling:  
a fish frequently kept as a pet)

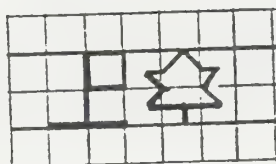
hedgehog

(animal + pictograph of spines)  
(10, 8)



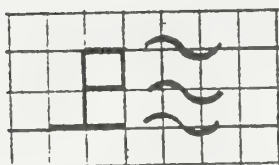
## SYMBOLS FOR COUNTRIES

Canada



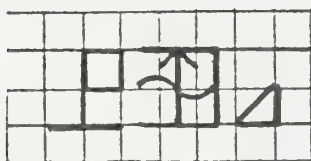
(country + maple leaf)  
(15, 9, 8)

Denmark



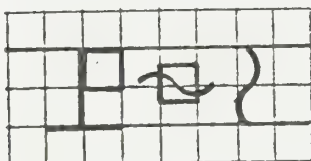
(country + 3 parallel water  
symbols: a country divided by 3  
channels of water)

Finland



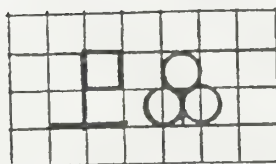
(country + sauna)  
(15, 9, 14, 21a, 5, 8)

Iceland



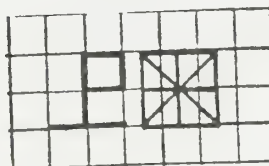
(country + ice + fire: a country  
characterized by ice and  
fiery volcanoes)

Ireland



(country + shamrock)  
(15, 9, 7)

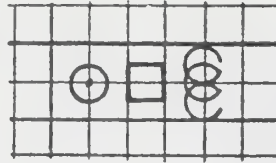
United Kingdom



(country + pictograph of Union Jack)  
(15, 9, 14, 17)

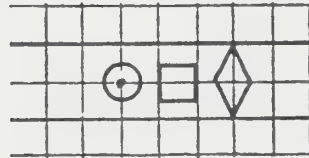
# ADDITIONAL SYMBOLS FOR SHAPES

spiral, curl



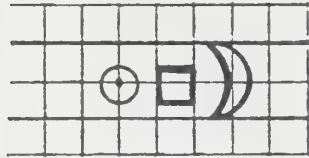
(shape + spiral)  
(7, 9)

diamond



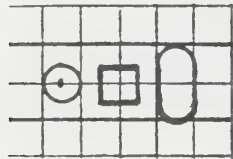
(shape + diamond)  
(7, 9, 10)

crescent



(shape + crescent)  
(7, 9, 18, 20)

oval



(shape + oval)  
(7, 9)

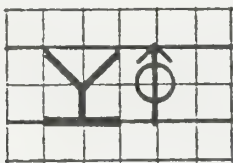
## MISCELLANEOUS SYMBOLS

bar, pub



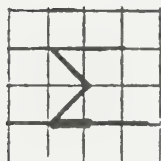
(public room + alcoholic drink)

beer

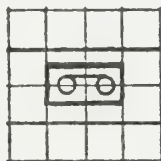


(alcoholic drink + gas: alcoholic drink which has bubbles or foam)

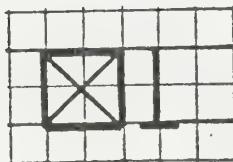
drunk

(weak person + alcoholic drink:  
person weakened by alcohol)  
(8, 9)

cassette (for tape or video recorder)

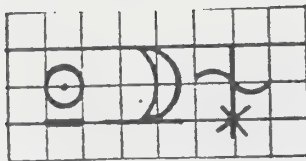
(pictograph)  
(15, 6, 1)

everybody



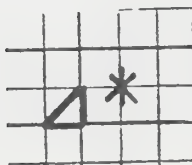
(all + person)

gray, grey



(a combination of black and white:  
colour made by mixing black  
and white)

jewel



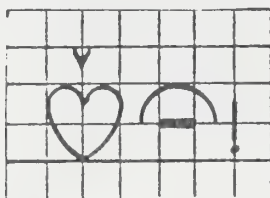
(stone + to shine)  
(8, 9)

mailbox, mail slot  
postbox (UK)



(enclosure + letter)

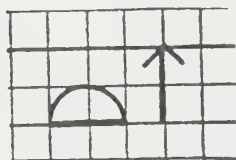
naughty



(feeling + incorrect + description  
indicator)

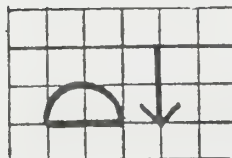
NOTE: Blissymbol Synonym

sunrise



(half sun + up)

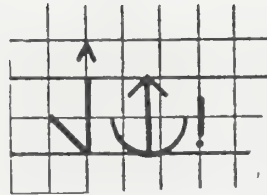
sunset



(half sun + down)

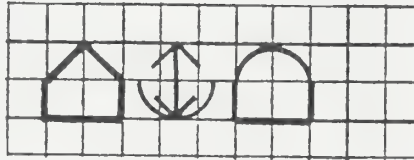


(to) throw



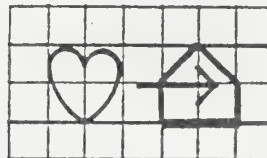
(hand + to give + intensity +  
action indicator: to discharge  
into the air with a swift motion of  
the arm)

university



(building + to exchange  
+ knowledge)

welcome

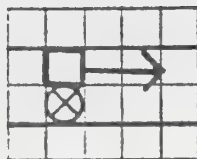


(feeling + relation and  
visitor/contraction/: feeling  
expressed to visitors)

NOTE: Blissymbol contraction. The symbol elements "relation" and "visitor" have been contracted.

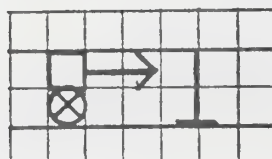
## TRANSPORTATION

cart, carriage



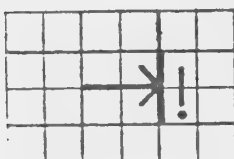
(combination of to pull and to carry)

rickshaw



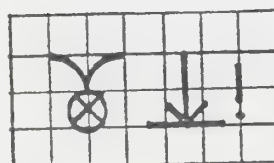
(cart + person)

crash



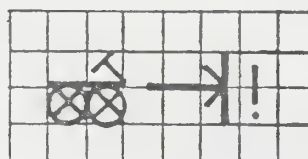
(stop + intensity)

(airplane) crash



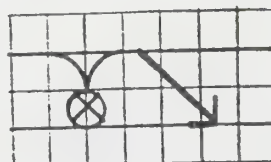
(airplane + to fall + earth)

(automobile) crash



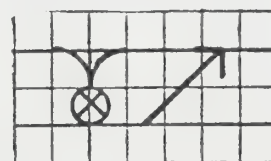
(automobile + to crash)

(airplane) landing



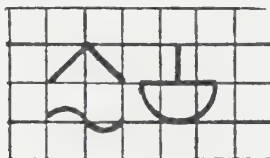
(airplane + downward pointing diagonal arrow)

(airplane) take-off



(airplane + upward pointing diagonal arrow)

harbour



(protection + water + boat)

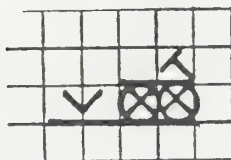
helicopter



(pictograph derived from airplane,  
with rotating blades)

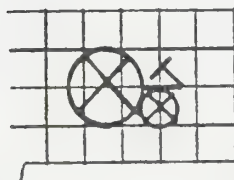
(7, 8, 1, 10)

road



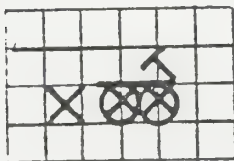
(earth/extended/ + pointer  
+ car: a place where cars travel)

tractor



(pictograph)  
(13, 17, 7, 8, 9, 12)

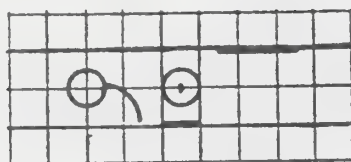
traffic



(many + car)

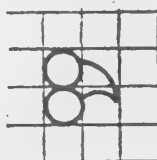
## ADDITIONAL FOOD SYMBOLS

blueberry

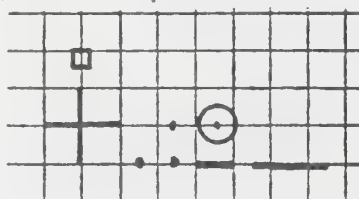


(berry + blue)

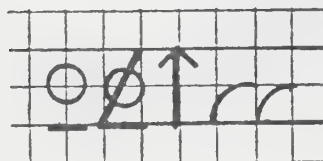
currant(s)

(pictograph of cluster of currants)  
(7, 18, 11)

raspberry, blackberry, compound berry

(pictograph)  
(6, 18)chocolate flavouring,  
chocolate powder, cocoa powder(flavouring + powder + brown  
+ thing indicator)

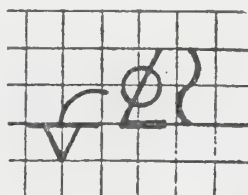
halvah, halwa



(sweet food + grain)

NOTE: Symbol request from BCI Affiliate in India

horseradish

(wedge-shaped edible root + hot  
taste) (8, 10, 18, 16, 7, 21a)

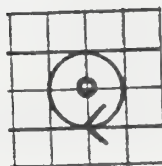
- meatball

(meat + ball: meat in the shape  
of a ball)



## ENERGY

atom



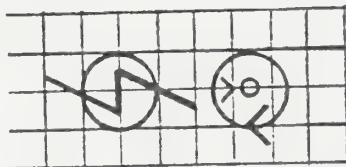
(pictograph of atom with inner  
nucleus and arrow head showing  
movement of circling electron)  
(13, 6, 5)

nucleus



(atom + pointer to nucleus)  
(13, 6, 5)

nuclear energy



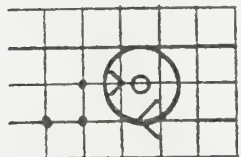
(energy + nucleus: energy released  
by a nuclear reaction)

nuclear radiation



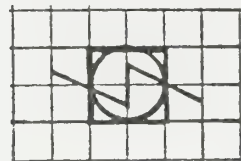
(nucleus + pointers suggesting  
radiation of radioactive particles)

nuclear fallout



(dust + nucleus)

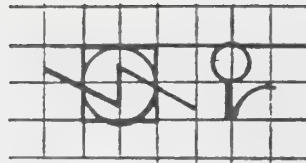
fuel



(energy + enclosure:  
energy that can be put  
into an enclosure and  
used to power something)

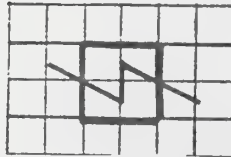
NOTE: Revised Symbol

coal



(fuel + plant: fuel  
derived from plants)

microwave oven



(enclosure + electromagnetic  
radiation)

NOTE: formerly the symbol for "fuel". See p.15

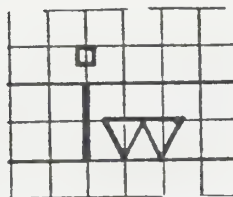
## ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING (ADL) SYMBOLS

cavity



(teeth + dot)

dental floss

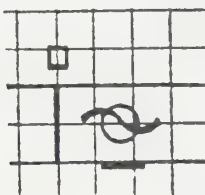
(linear thing + teeth +  
thing indicator)

day care centre

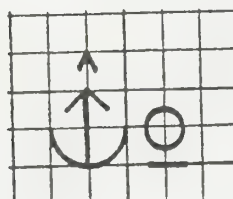


(building + day care)

drinking straw

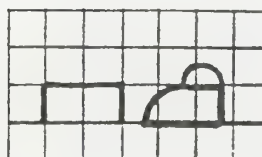
(linear thing + drink + thing  
indicator)

(to) feed



(to give + food + action indicator)

ironing board

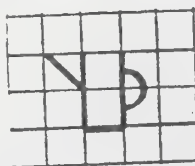
(table + iron)  
(15, 18)

laundromat, launderette, laundry (UK)



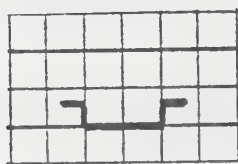
(public room + to wash + clothing)

pitcher, coffeepot, kettle



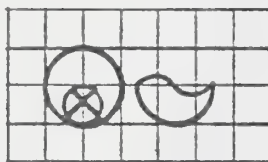
(pictograph with handle and spout)  
(15, 7, 8)

tray



(pictograph)  
(15, 1)

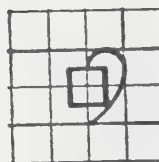
washing machine, washer



(machine + to wash)

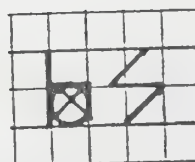
AIDS FOR LIVING

ear mould



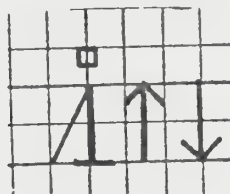
(thing + ear: part of a hearing  
aid which fits into the ear)

electric wheelchair



(wheelchair + electric)

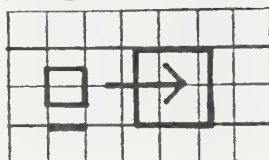
lift, hoist



(aid + up and down + thing  
indicator)

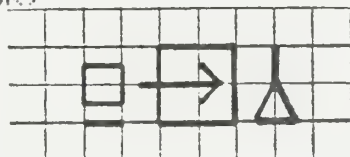
## PERSONAL HYGIENE

absorbent material, sponge



(material + into)

diaper

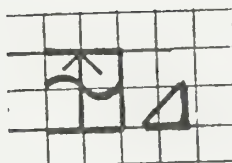
(absorbent material + combination  
of buttocks and genitals)tampon, sanitary napkin,  
sanitary towel (UK)

(absorbent material + woman)

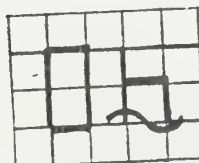
steam bath

(room + steam)  
(14, 21a, 5,)

sauna

(steam bath + rock)  
(14, 21a, 5, 8, 9)

toilet paper

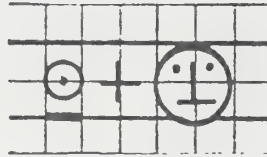


(paper + toilet)



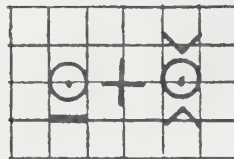
## MAKE-UP

make-up



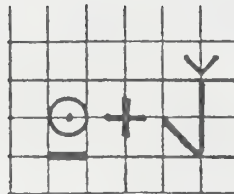
(colour + plus + face:  
colour added to  
the face)

eye make-up



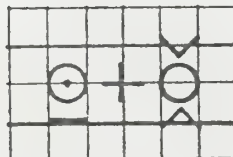
(colour + plus + pointers  
to eyelids and lashes: colour  
added to eyelids  
and eyelashes)

nail polish



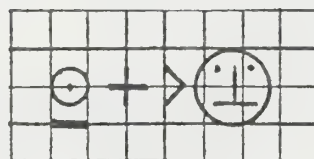
(colour + plus + finger:  
colour added to fingernails)

lipstick



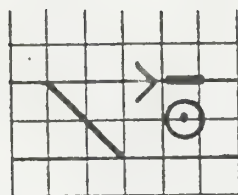
(colour + plus + lips:  
colour added to  
lips)

rouge, blusher



(colour + plus + cheek: colour  
added to cheeks)

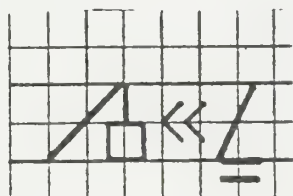
eyebrow pencil



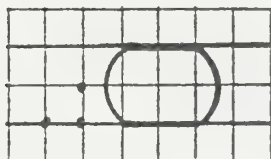
(pencil + eyebrow)

## TOILETRIES

deodorant

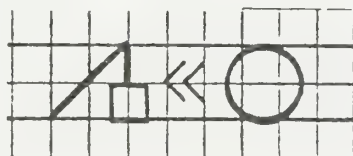
(chemical product + against  
+ smell)

talcum powder



(powder + body)

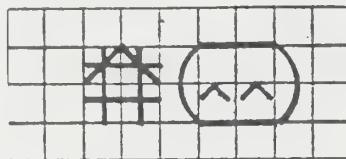
sun screen, sun lotion



(chemical product + against + sun)

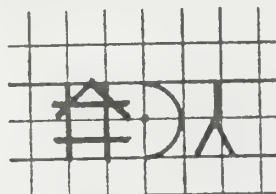
## ADDITIONAL CLOTHING SYMBOLS

bra, brassiere



(clothing + breasts)

dhoti, lungi



(clothing + around + man)

NOTE: symbol requested by BCI Affiliate in India

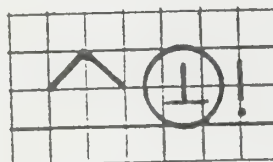
sari



(clothing + around + woman)

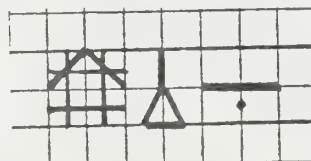
NOTE: symbol requested by BCI Affiliate in India

helmet



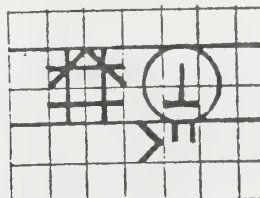
(hat + intensity: a reinforced hat)

slip, petticoat, underskirt



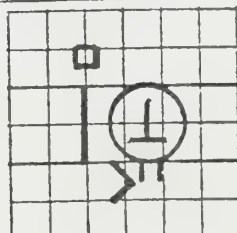
(dress + under)

scarf



(clothing + neck)

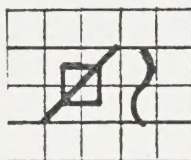
tie, necktie



(linear thing + neck + thing indicator)

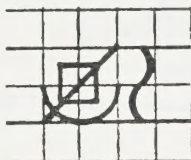
## SYMBOLS FOR SMOKING MATERIALS

ashes



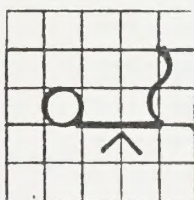
(waste + fire)

ash tray

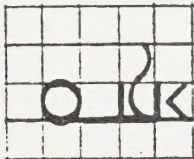


(container + ashes)

cigarette

(to smoke + pointer to  
cigarette)

pipe

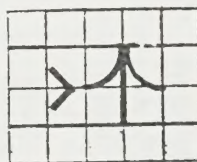
(to smoke + pictograph of  
smoking pipe + pointer) (7, 21a, 9)

# NEW PRINCIPLE WHICH CAN BE USED TO CREATE NEEDED VOCABULARY

The pointer may be used to point to a detail of a symbol or to a particular location.

## SYMBOLS WHICH USE THE POINTER

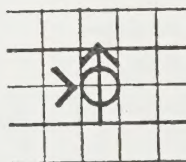
branch



(tree + pointer to branch)

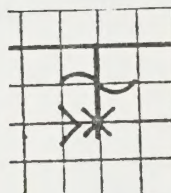
NOTE: Revised Symbol

bubble



(gas + pointer to bubble)

snowflake



(snow + pointer to star-shaped flake)

NOTE: Revised Symbol: the pointer is now positioned on the left. In future pointers at the side will be positioned on the left if possible.





